Operation Iraqi Freedom

Safety & Risk Management In Operation Iraqi Freedom

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Operation Iraqi Freedom

CLASS A-C ACCIDENTS
20 MAR 03 – 30 MAR 05

LEADING CAUSES

TYPE	ACCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Army Motor Vehicle	249	38%
Personal Injury	202	31%
Negligent Discharge	85	13%
Army Combat Vehicle	36	6%
Explosive	28	4%
Fire	19	3%
Aviation	17	3%
Friendly Fire	11	2%

TOTAL ACCIDENTS	647

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CLASS A ACCIDENTS
20 MAR 03 – 30 MAR 05

LEADING CAUSES	TYPE	FATALITIES	% of TOTAL
	Army Motor Vehicle	101	50%
	Personal Injury	31	15%
	Negligent Discharge	23	11%
	Army Combat Vehicle	21	10%
	Explosive	11	5%
	Fire	7	3%
	Aviation	5	2%
	Friendly Fire	2	1%
	TOTAL ACCIDENTS	201	

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PERSONAL INJURY CAUSES

- **DROWNINGS**
  - ***OCCURRED DURING/AFTER VEHICLE ACCIDENT***
  - ***DROWNINGS AS A RESULT OF OTHER CAUSES***
- **HEAT INJURY FATALITIES**
- **SPORTS INJURIES –** ***BASKETBALL & FLAG FOOTBALL***
- **TIRE EXPLOSIONS**
  - ***AIRCRAFT TIRE EXPLOSION –FATALITY***
  - ***VEHICLE SPLIT RING TIRE EXPLOSIONS –FATALITIES***

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PERSONAL INJURIES

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

- ***CHAIN OF COMMAND AND LEADER ENGAGEMENT***
- ***STANDARDS & DISCIPLINE***
- ***INTEGRATE RISK MANAGEMENT INTO ALL ACTIVITIES***
- ***BATTLING COMPLACENCY; DO NOT ALLOW "WE'RE IN COMBAT" EXCUSE FOR POOR RISK MANAGEMENT***

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PERSONAL INJURIES

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

- REMOVING SPLIT RIM TIRES FROM THE INVENTORY

- AT DIRECTION FORSCOM COMMANDER, FORSCOM G-4 IS CURRENTLY PURSUING REPLACEMENT OF ALL SPLIT RIM TIRES ON VEHICLES

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PERSONAL INJURIES

AREAS FOR FURTHER ANALYSIS/DISCUSSION

- ***UNITS LEAVE SAFETY BEHIND WHEN THEY DEPLOY TO COMBAT OPNS***
- ***ELIMINATION OF ILL-ADVISED RISK ACCEPTANCE DURING AND AFTER COMBAT OPERATIONS***
- ***SUCCESS STORY OF CFLCC IN PREVENTING HEAT CASUALTIES***
  - ***HYDRATION/REHYDRATION***
  - ***WORK/REST SCHEDULES***
  - ***ACCLIMATIZATION***

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ARMY MOTOR VEHICLE (AMV) OR ARMY COMBAT VEHICLE (ACV) FATALITIES

40 FATALITIES

- 25% OF ACCIDENTS INVOLVED INTERACTION WITH A LOCAL CIVILIAN VEHICLE

- MULTIPLE FATALITIES FROM VEHICLE OCCUPANT DROWNING

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ARMY MOTOR VEHICLE (AMV) OR ARMY COMBAT VEHICLE (ACV) FATALITIES

NUMEROUS HMMWV ROLLOVERS; MANY OCCUPANTS WERE SERIOUSLY INJURED WHEN THEY WERE NOT PROPERLY SECURED IN THE VEHICLE

ROLLOVERS ON FLAT TERRAIN = INDISCIPLINE

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ARMY MOTOR VEHICLE (AMV) OR ARMY COMBAT VEHICLE (ACV) FATALITIES

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

- ***CHAIN OF COMMAND ENGAGEMENT***
- ***STANDARDS & DISCIPLINE***
- ***LICENSING***
- ***CREW COMPOSITION***
- ***FATIGUE***
- ***SPEED***
- ***SEATBELTS***
- ***COMPLACENCY***

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ARMY MOTOR VEHICLE (AMV) OR ARMY COMBAT VEHICLE (ACV) FATALITIES

AREAS FOR FURTHER ANALYSIS/DISCUSSION

- INHERENT SAFETY IN USE OF SEATBELTS VERSUS THE RISK OF BEING UNABLE TO GET OUT OF VEHICLE IN AN AMBUSH

- SEATBELTS

- ***TOO SHORT/TOO SMALL***
- ***INACCESSIBLE***
- ***ALTERNATE RESTRAINTS***

- RESTRAINT FOR SOLDIER IN GUNNER'S HATCH

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EXPLOSIVES ACCIDENTS

- ***FATALITIES DURING INCORRECT HANDLING OR DISPOSAL OF UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE***
- ***FATALITIES WHEN US GRENADES WERE LEFT UNSECURED IN THE CARGO AREA OF A HMMWV***

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EXPLOSIVES ACCIDENTS

- ***GRENADES DISCOVERED UNDER HMMWV SEAT WHEN IT WAS RETURNED TO CONUS, VEHICLE HAD PASSED IN-COUNTRY REDEPLOYMENT INSPECTION***
- ***INJURIES WHEN LIT CIGARETTE WAS THROWN INTO A MUNITIONS STORAGE AREA***

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EXPLOSIVES ACCIDENTS

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

- CHAIN OF COMMAND AND LEADER ENGAGEMENT

- STANDARDS & DISCIPLINE, ADHERENCE TO HANDLING PROCEDURES

- THOROUGH REDEPLOYMENT INSPECTIONS & CHECKS FOR MUNITIONS, WAR TROPHIES

- BATTLING COMPLACENCY, A RESULT OF FAMILIARITY WITH MUNITIONS

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EXPLOSIVES ACCIDENTS

AREAS FOR FURTHER ANALYSIS/DISCUSSION

- ***EXPLOSIVES AND UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE HANDLING AND DISPOSAL STANDARDS***
- ***EOD PERSONNEL: WELL-TRAINED IN DISPOSAL, BUT FEW IN NUMBER***
- ***ENGINEER METL TASK LIST INCLUDES USING DEMOLITIONS***
- ***ISSUE: PROFICIENCY IN HANDLING/DISPOSAL OF UXO***

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ACCIDENTAL/NEGLIGENT DISCHARGES

- ***FATALITIES WHILE SOLDIERS WERE CONDUCTING WEAPON FUNCTION CHECKS IN THEIR TENTS***

- ***FATALITIES AND INJURIES***

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ACCIDENTAL/NEGLIGENT DISCHARGES

AREAS FOR FURTHER ANALYSIS/DISCUSSION

- ***CONFLICTING WEAPONS CLEARING PROCEDURES***
- ***COMPLACENCY WHILE HANDLING, CLEANING, AND CLEARING WEAPONS***
- ***FAMILIARITY WITH HANDLING WEAPONS DURING PEACETIME TRAINING***
- ***CLEARING BARREL STANDARDS, ENFORCEMENT***

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AVIATION ACCIDENTS

- *83% OF ACCIDENTS CAUSED BY HUMAN ERROR*
- *25% INVOLVED AIRCREW COORDINATION ISSUES*

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AVIATION ACCIDENTS

MULTIPLE AVIATION ACCIDENTS INVOLVED BROWN-OUT CONDITIONS

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AVIATION ACCIDENTS

AREAS FOR FURTHER ANALYSIS/DISCUSSION

- ***ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING WITH FOCUS ON TAKEOFF AND LANDING IN DUST AND SAND***
- ***CREW ENDURANCE REVIEW***
- ***TRAINING/REINFORCEMENT OF CRITICAL AIRCREW COORDINATION AND COMMUNICATION***
- ***RISK ASSESSMENTS AND CHAIN OF COMMAND OVERSIGHT***

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INJURIES FROM FIRES

- **INJURIES WHILE BURNING WASTE OR TRASH**

-UXO WAS BURNED IN TRASH

-INJURY OCCURRED DURING FIRE FIGHTING

- USE OF INCORRECT FUEL FOR BURNING WASTE

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INJURIES FROM FIRES

-SOLDIER BURNED WHEN HE SUCCESSFULLY ACTIVATED AN EJECTION SEAT IN IRAQI AIRCRAFT

- MESS TENT AT CAMP PENNSYLVANIA, KUWAIT

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INJURIES FROM FIRES

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

- ***CHAIN OF COMMAND AND LEADER ENGAGEMENT***
- ***STANDARDS & DISCIPLINE***
- ***REINFORCE STANDARDS FOR APPROPRIATE USE OF FIRE – WASTE AND TRASH DISPOSAL PROCEDURES***
- ***BATTLING COMPLACENCY***

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INDISCIPLINE AND HORSEPLAY EXAMPLES

- SOLDIER'S ARM SEVERELY INJURED WHEN HE WAS BITTEN IN AN ATTEMPT TO FEED A TIGER SOME KABOB AT THE BAGHDAD ZOO.
- SOLDIER INJURED WHILE TWIRLING A LOADED 9mm PISTOL AND IT DISCHARGED.
- SOLDIER'S FACE BADLY BURNED WHEN HE USED A LIGHTER TO CHECK IF A FUEL TANK WAS EMPTY. VAPORS IGNITED.
- TWO SOLDIERS KILLED AND ONE INJURED WHILE "DUNE JUMPING" IN A HMMWV. HMMWV ROLLED.
- AT-4 FIRED THROUGH FOUR TENTS WHEN SOLDIER WAS DEMONSTRATING ITS USE. NEAR-MISS, NO INJURIES.

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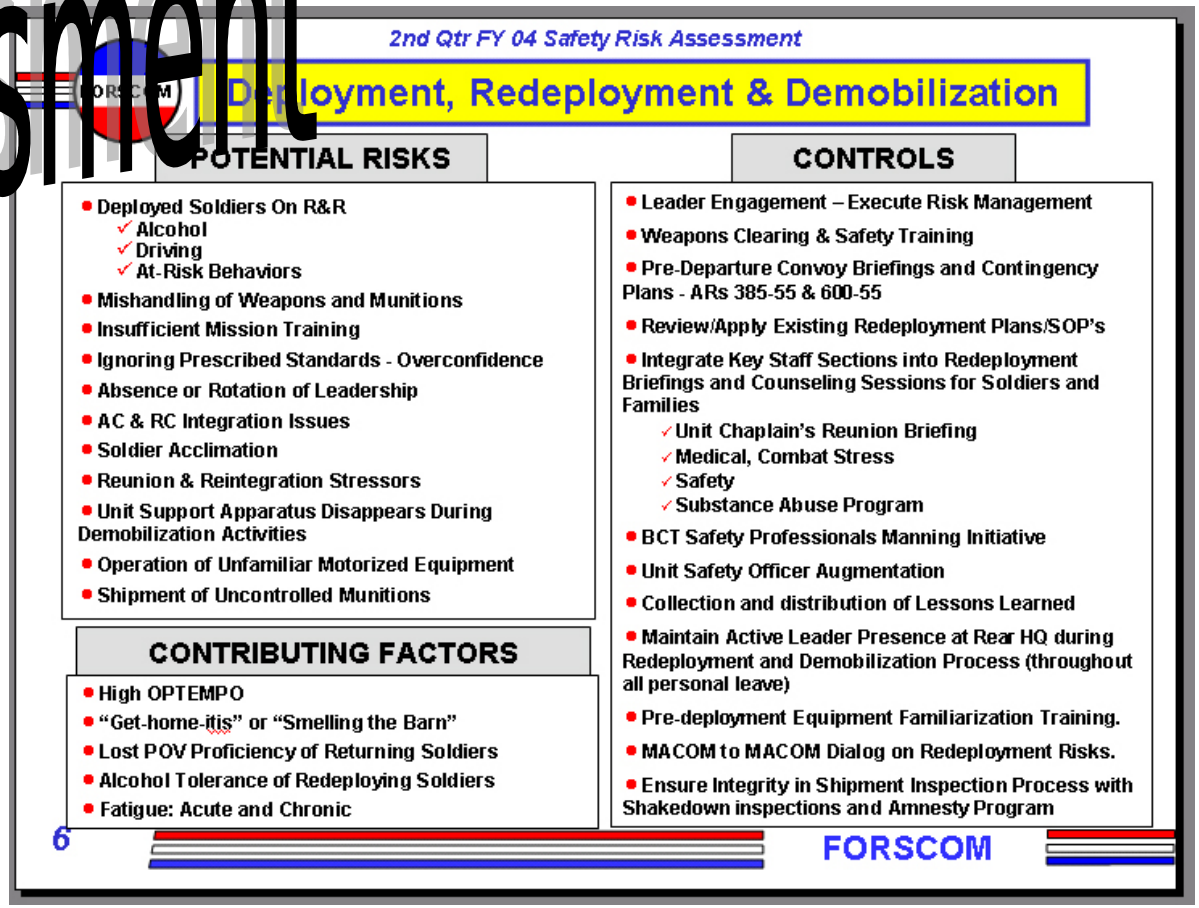
Risk Assessment


2nd Qtr FY 04 Safety Risk Assessment
Deployment, Redeployment & Demobilization
POTENTIAL RISKS
Deployed Soldiers On R&R
✓ Alcohol
✓ Driving
✓ At-Risk Behaviors
Mishandling of Weapons and Munitions
Insufficient Mission Training
Ignoring Prescribed Standards - Overconfidence
Absence or Rotation of Leadership
AC & RC Integration Issues
Soldier Acclimation
Reunion & Reintegration Stressors
Unit Support Apparatus Disappears During Demobilization Activities
Operation of Unfamiliar Motorized Equipment
Shipment of Uncontrolled Munitions
CONTRIBUTING FACTORS
High OPTEMPO
"Get-home-itis" or "Smelling the Barn"
Lost POV Proficiency of Returning Soldiers
Alcohol Tolerance of Redeploying Soldiers
Fatigue: Acute and Chronic
CONTROLS
Leader Engagement – Execute Risk Management
Weapons Clearing & Safety Training
Pre-Departure Convoy Briefings and Contingency Plans - ARs 385-55 & 600-55
Review/Apply Existing Redeployment Plans/SOP's
Integrate Key Staff Sections into Redeployment Briefings and Counseling Sessions for Soldiers and Families
✓ Unit Chaplain's Reunion Briefing
✓ Medical, Combat Stress
✓ Safety
✓ Substance Abuse Program
BCT Safety Professionals Manning Initiative
Unit Safety Officer Augmentation
Collection and distribution of Lessons Learned
Maintain Active Leader Presence at Rear HQ during Redeployment and Demobilization Process (throughout all personal leave)
Pre-deployment Equipment Familiarization Training.
MACOM to MACOM Dialog on Redeployment Risks.
Ensure Integrity in Shipment Inspection Process with Shakedown inspections and Amnesty Program
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Command Emphasis

2nd Qtr FY 04 Safety Risk Assessment

Proposed Commander's 2nd Qtr Areas of Concern Residual Risk

Residual Risk After Controls Added

	Areas of Concern	Initial Risk	Residual Risk After Controls Added
Standards & Discipline	Deployment, Redeployment & Demobilization	Ex High	High
	POV & Motorcycle Operations	Ex High	High
	Preventing Combat Casualties	Ex High	High
	Weapons Handling	High	Mod
	Training & Exercises	High	Mod
	Suicides	High	Mod
	Winter Safety	Mod	Mod

Low Risk | Moderate Risk | High Risk | Extremely High Risk

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